

cityscene



JULY 2024



FROM THE FRONT LINES

Stafford Drive stream restoration project area

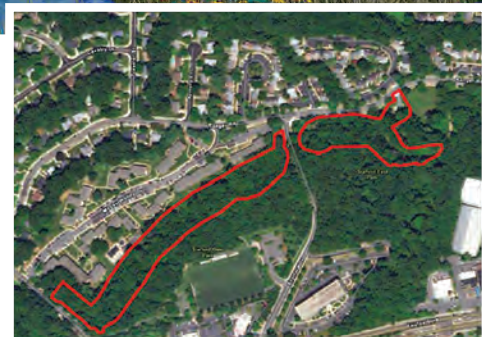
Stafford Drive Stream Restoration Slated to Begin This Fall

A project to restore nearly half a mile of Stafford Drive stream between Fair Woods Parkway and Cardinal Road Park is expected to start by November. Stream restoration projects repair years of unintentional abuse, restore ecological functions in the stream valley, and improve recreational experiences for residents. The stream restoration project also will provide credit toward meeting the city's state and federal regulatory requirements that protect water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The city's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Permit requires the city to reduce the discharge of pollutants into state-owned surface waters. Stream characteristics change naturally over time, but streams in urbanized areas must be managed to protect public and private property and critical infrastructure, such as underground sanitary sewer lines.

The Stafford Drive stream was identified as a high priority for restoration in the 2007 Accotink Creek Stream Stability Assessment.

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CITY NEWS

City Government Offices Holiday Closures

Thursday, July 4, Independence Day

- Closed: City government offices, DMV Select, General District Court
- CUE Bus: no service

Friday, July 5

- Closed: General District Court

Holiday Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule

- July 4: no service
- June 5: Thursday and Friday routes collected

Please note: there may be a delay in yard debris collection citywide July 1-6. Please leave items at the curb until they are collected. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Refuse Holiday"), 703-385-7837

Keep Fireworks Safe

Not all fireworks are permitted in the city, so avoid those that explode, emit a flame, spark higher than 15 feet, or are projectiles. Please end home fireworks displays by 11 p.m., per the city's noise ordinance.

Better yet, come to the free Evening Show at Fairfax High School, where the music begins at 6:30 p.m. and fireworks light up the night sky. Info: fairfaxva.gov/july4

Tip and Toss Standing Water to Fight the Bite

Tip and toss standing water — or treat standing water with safe larvicides — and carefully treat the yard with safe insecticides that do not harm butterflies, honeybees, and other outdoor friends. Info: fairfaxcounty.gov/fightthebite, 703-246-2201

Improve Your Language Proficiency at the Library

Do you want to learn a new language for a trip abroad? Do you want to improve your English proficiency? Have you always wanted to

learn Korean? Turkish? Check out Mango Languages via your free Fairfax County Public Library card. Use the online Mango Language Learning program to learn (or brush up on) 70+ languages, from Arabic to Yiddish. Landlubbers can brush up on their "Pirate," or travel back in time with Shakespearean English. Need a computer? Use one at the City of Fairfax Regional Library or any other convenient FCPL branch.

FCPL cards are available for all who live and work in Fairfax City and Fairfax County. Info: fairfaxcounty.gov/library

Free Smoke Alarms, Batteries for City Residents

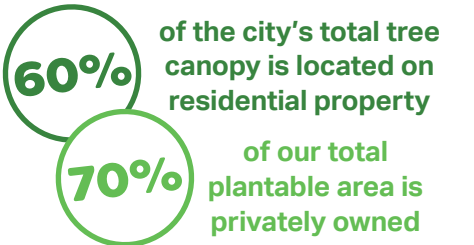
If you live in the City of Fairfax and need smoke alarms (or smoke alarm batteries) for your home, the city fire department can help. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "smoke alarms"), 703-385-7830

Replace Worn, Broken Recycling Bins

Replace broken city-issued recycling bins with new ones. Please mark broken bins for removal and place them at the curb on your regular curbside collection day. Info: RefuseRecycling@fairfaxva.gov, 703-385-7837

Lead Free Fairfax

Fairfax Water needs your help inventorying service line materials to identify lead service lines within its water system. Some portions of lines on private property are *unknown* — and you can change that by taking a survey. Info: fairfaxwater.org/leadfree, 703-698-5800



The SPROUT program is launching a stewardship initiative for our urban and community forest. Creating an Urban Forest Master Plan is the first step. City staff want to hear from you. Opportunities to plant, care for, and learn about our urban and community forest will be shared soon.

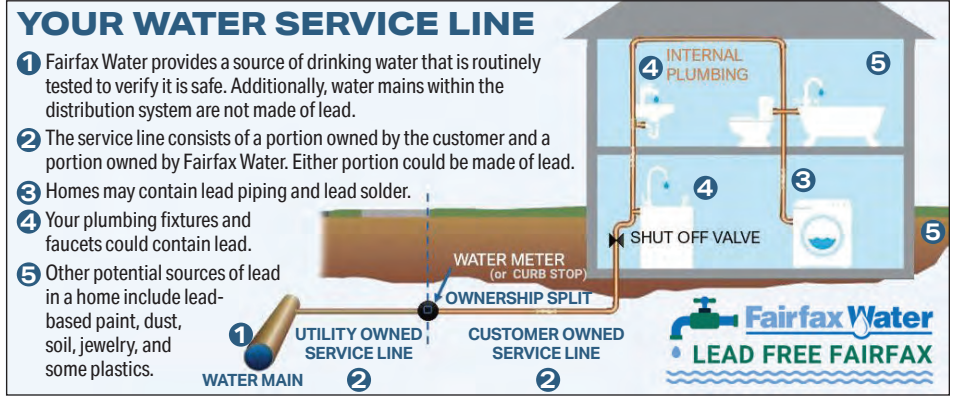


Learn more! Be added to the distribution list and receive updates and event invitations.

SPROUT was developed in partnership with George Mason University's Institute for a Sustainable Earth. This project is being funded with a \$1M grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service to plant and maintain trees, combat extreme heat and climate change, and improve access to nature.

Saturday and Sunday Farmers Markets

Shop for fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, and more! Sponsored by the Downtown Fairfax Coalition, the markets are held at 10500 Page Ave. (adjacent to the historic Fairfax Courthouse) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through late October. Info: fairfaxSaturdaymarket.com, fairfaxSundaymarket.com



COUNCIL REPORTER



PLEASE NOTE: summaries have been edited. To read the full Council Reporter, visit fairfaxva.gov and click on "City Meetings" or scan QR code at left.

The City Council has added a second public comment opportunity to the regular council meetings. Those who sign up before 5 p.m. for public comment on the meeting day will speak during the first public comment period, and those who sign up after 5 p.m. will speak after the consent agenda and public hearings.

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF MAY 7, 2024

PUBLIC HEARING

- Appropriation resolutions for the suite of funds to implement the FY 2025 budget starting July 1. (*Approved unanimously during "public hearing not required."*)
 - General - \$180,763,548
 - Capital - \$82.6M for FY25
 - Wastewater - \$22,219,604
 - Wastewater Lateral Repair and Replacement Program - \$160,000
 - Transit - \$5,884,532
 - Stormwater Utility - \$7,372,438
 - Cable - \$140,000
 - Old Town - \$65,000
 - Transportation Tax - \$7,163,816
 - American Rescue Plan Act - \$11.720,000

PUBLIC HEARING NOT REQUIRED

- Approved unanimously:
 - Real estate tax rate of \$1.030 per \$100 of assessed value (\$0.005 increase) and the personal property and machinery and tools tax of \$4.13 per 100% of assessed value.
 - Commercial and Industrial Tax Rate at \$1.125 per \$100 of assessed value. Revenues will be used exclusively for transportation purposes.
 - Old Town Service District Tax at \$0.08 per \$100 of assessed valuation.
 - Wastewater Utility Rate increase of 6%.
 - Supplemental appropriation resolution for \$3.8M for FY 2024 Spring non-discretionary and Council authorized expenditures.
 - 3.5% merit increase effective January 1, 2025, for eligible general scale employees.
 - 2.0% market rate adjustment to general pay scales effective July 1, 2024.
 - 1% cost-of-living adjustment for public safety employees effective July 1, 2024, and the programmed annual step increase for public safety employees who were moved to the step system, as amended.
- Approved, 5-1, Stormwater Utility Service Fee at \$32.35 per billing unit (6% increase). (*In favor: Councilmembers Bates, Doyle Feingold, Greenfield, Ross, and Stehle. Opposed: Councilmember Lim.*)

- Approved, 4-2, incorporating all changes included in the budget adjustment sheet (Attachment I, previously published), (ii) to amended by attachment I.A. (*In favor: Councilmembers Bates, Lim, Ross, and Stehle. Opposed: Councilmembers Doyle Feingold and Greenfield.*)

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF MAY 14, 2024

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- Proclamation acknowledging:
 - May 12-18 as National Police Week.
 - May as Mental Health Awareness Month, Foster Care Awareness Month, and Older Americans Month.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- Approved, unanimously, adoption of agenda.
- Approved, unanimously, deferral to June 11, 2024, a public hearing on a request for consideration of rezoning, special use permit, special exceptions, and a major certificate of appropriateness for architecture and landscaping at 10306 Eaton Place (N29 Apartments/WillowWood Phase I).

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approved unanimously: Minutes of the April 30, 2024, special and regular meetings.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Approved, unanimously, a special use permit to keep chickens at 3820 Ren Road.
- Approved, unanimously, enactment of an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 54 on loitering.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING

- Approved, unanimously, a resolution consenting to and approving revisions to the stormwater utility credit program.

COUNCIL ACTIONS OF MAY 28, 2024

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

- Proclamation acknowledging:
 - May as Poppy Month.
 - June 1-9 as Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week.
 - June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month.
- Presentation by the city Towing Advisory Board.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- Approved, unanimously, adoption of agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approved unanimously:
 - Minutes of the May 7, 2024, special meeting.
 - Minutes of the May 14, 2024, regular meeting.
 - Adoption of the city's Towing Advisory Board recommendations.
 - Consideration of a professional services contract award for multi-phase architectural and engineering services; Introduction of the FY2024 federal and state grant expenditures appropriation.
 - Introduction of an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 14 on regulating micro-mobility devices for hire.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A PUBLIC HEARING

- Approved, unanimously, the City of Fairfax Community Flood Resilience Plan.

Before the meeting, Katherine Johnson Middle School students presented ideas for future development of the Fairfax Circle area.



HELPING HANDS

WHY I SERVE BY MATT HOFFERT



Matt Hoffert serves on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. He has been a Fairfax City resident since 2019, and a Fairfax High School teacher and coach since 2010.

Our Parks and Rec Department is one of the most attractive things about living in the city. With four young kids, my family spends a lot of our time on weekends outdoors at Daniels Run Park, Van Dyck Park, and any number of city playgrounds. Serving on PRAB connects me to the community, and my contribution directly impacts my family.

PRAB exists to provide stakeholders' input to our fabulous Parks and Rec staff, to serve as a sounding board to staff, and to provide recommendations on Parks and Rec projects. Our main job is to think of questions residents might ask, ask as many questions as possible, and encourage staff to look at projects and ideas from the perspective of residents who will be impacted.

Volunteering is not as big a time commitment as it may seem. Meetings are once a month, and really, all that's required is that you come prepared to discuss and ask questions.

THE CITY NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE YOU SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Building Code Appeals (two vacancies: one mechanical or plumbing vacancy and one for city resident); **Board of Zoning Appeals** (one vacancy for city resident); **Commission for Women** (three vacancies for city residents); **Commission on Aging** (one vacancy for city resident); **Commission on the Arts** (three vacancies: one city resident, one business representative, and one George Mason University representative); **Environmental Sustainability Committee** (one vacancy for city resident); **George Mason University Fairfax Campus Advisory Board** (one vacancy for city resident); **Human Services Committee** (one vacancy for city resident); **Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board** (one vacancy for city resident); **City Grievance Panel** (vacancies for city residents; number to be determined).

To apply, visit fairfaxva.gov and search "boards and vacancies," or call 703-385-7935.



New Chain Bridge Road Sidewalk Installed

The city constructed the missing segment of sidewalk on the east side of northbound Chain Bridge Road, from the existing sidewalk north of Kenmore Drive to Cedar Avenue. Additionally, the pedestrian crossing at Cedar Avenue was relocated to the north side of the intersection.

Stafford Drive Stream

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The \$2.3M project was approved in the FY 2021 budget and included in the FY 2022-26 Capital Improvement Program.

The city's plan review process approved the design, and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality approved the project for a Stormwater Local Assistance Fund grant totaling \$1.175M. The project team is preparing contract documents and awaits final permitting determinations from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

The city will use natural channel design techniques to stabilize the stream, prevent further erosion, and reconnect the stream to the floodplain. Natural materials incorporated in the design will slow down rushing stormwater and restore the natural meander found in stable streams.

As with any construction project, there will be temporary disruption,

which can cause discomfort: trees must be removed to allow the city to grade the stream banks and create construction access, and heavy equipment will be audible in the project area. The city will install native plantings toward the end of the project, which will need time to take root and flourish. However, some benefits of stream restoration will be realized immediately – stable conditions and improved water quality – while others require patience. In three to five years, nature will have hidden most signs of a construction project. Restoring the stream now is an investment in the city's future and helps the city meet its water quality obligations.

Next, as the city focuses attention on Accotink Creek, we need your help. In its recently completed assessment of Accotink Creek, the city developed seven potential locations for future stream restoration projects. Please help us decide which locations to prioritize. Learn more about these locations and provide feedback at Engage Fairfax.



Independence Day Celebration Committee

T-SHIRT SALE

Get your t-shirts, bucket hats and dog bandanas at the parade!

10 a.m. to Noon

Fronts steps of City Hall (10455 Armstrong St.)

Cash/Credit/Check (payable to IDCC)

Adult T-shirt \$15

Bucket Hat \$20

Youth T-shirt \$10

Dog Bandana \$5

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9AM

Start of Shuttle Bus Service to Downtown Fairfax

10AM-12PM

Independence Day Parade

10AM-3PM

Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center Open House

11:30AM-1:30PM

Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House Tours

12PM-2PM

Future Firefighters Day

1PM

End of Shuttle Bus Service to Downtown Fairfax

4:30PM

Gates Open/Bag Check at Fairfax High School

5:30PM

Start of Shuttle Bus Service to Fairfax High School

6:30PM

Evening Show Begins

8PM

Speeches & Awards

9:30PM

Fireworks Show

10:30PM

End of Evening Show

11PM

End of Shuttle Bus Service to Fairfax High School



LIVE LIFE IN THE ARTS

KIDZ KORNER

10:30 a.m., Old Town Square. FREE.
 July 13: Peter McCory,
The One-Man Band!
 July 20: MAD SCIENCE of DC –
Up, Up, and Away!
 July 27: Drew Blue Shows — *MAGIC!*

10TH ANNUAL FAIRFAX CITY ROCK THE BLOCK

Sponsored by: DELTA DENTAL

4th Fridays • May - October
 Old Town Square • 6:30 - 9:30pm
 10415 North St., Fairfax
 Live Music / Food Trucks / Beer Garden

JULY 26
 2MB & U.S. Army
 Downrange

AUGUST 23
 Firekite

SEPTEMBER 27
 Dr. Fu &
 Herr Metal

OCTOBER 25
 The Rockets

ALL-NEW OUTDOOR SHOW FROM HIDEAWAY CIRCUS

4 p.m. and 7 p.m. August 24
 4:30 p.m. August 25
 Van Dyck Park

PERFECT FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

Showcasing a dazzling array of 10 world-class performers, Canvas Sky blends the wonder of a classical circus with a poignant, contemporary storyline, all underscored by entirely original music. Tickets range from \$25 to \$65. hideawaycircus.com

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEUR EMPOWERMENT LUNCHEON
 Supporting Women-Owned Businesses in Fairfax City

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

Enjoy networking, a catered lunch from a women-owned business, and insightful discussions led by industry experts on overcoming day-to-day challenges of running a business.

SEP 25
 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Sherwood Community Center
 3740 Blenheim Blvd
 Fairfax, VA 22030

CONTACT
 FCED Programs Manager Tara Borwey
tara.borwey@fairfaxcityecondev.org

This year's event is being held in collaboration with Fairfax City Economic Development, the Commission for Women, the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, and the Old Town Fairfax Business Association

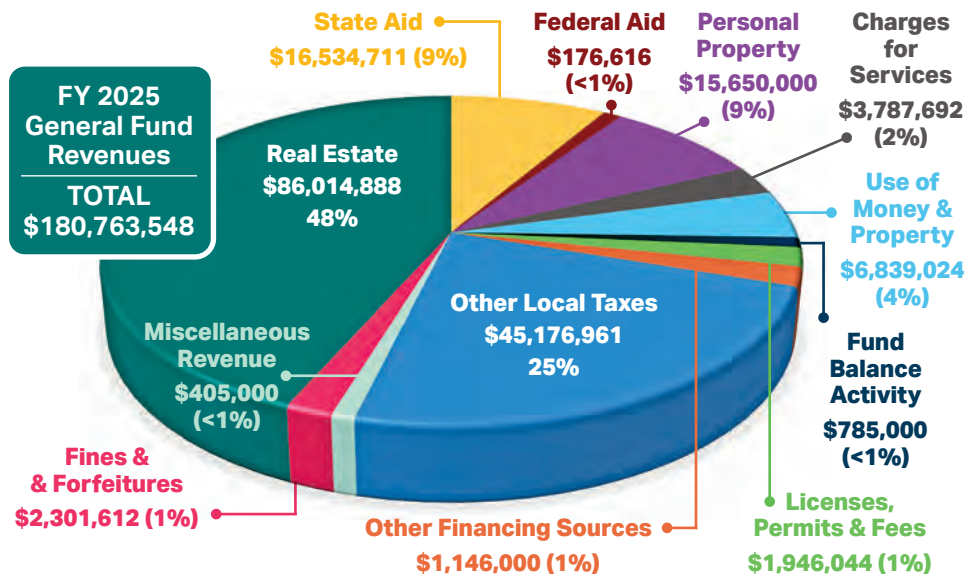
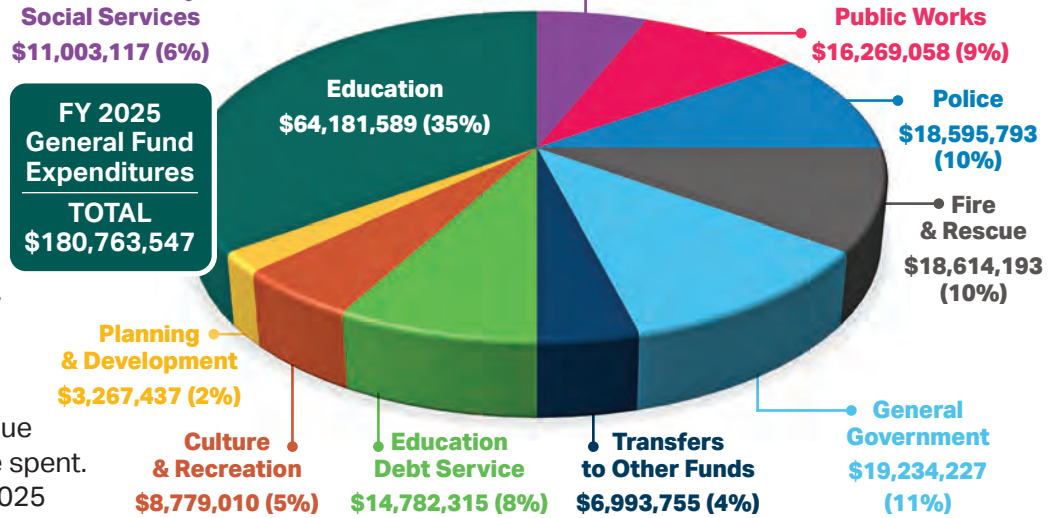


Mark Armour shared this photo of the U.S. Military Color Guard he took during the Ride of the Patriots event on May 26. Patriot Harley-Davidson and the Harley Owners Group Fairfax, Va., Chapter holds the annual event to celebrate Memorial Day. Bikers rode from Fairfax City to the Pentagon for the "Rolling to Remember" demonstration ride.

Adopted Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Highlights

City Council adopted the budget for fiscal year 2025 in May, and the budget year begins July 1. Estimated expenditures for all funds totaling \$264,306,594 cover everything from the agreement with Fairfax County Public Schools to new facilities, planned maintenance, public safety, and everything else needed to run the city and provide services to residents and businesses. The two pie charts illustrate the city's revenue sources and how the money will be spent.

Noteworthy projects in the FY 2025 budget include renovating the Fairfax High School auditorium, installing security cameras at both elementary schools, maintaining the property yard, replacing Fire Station 3, continuing to rehabilitate Old Town Hall, renovating Thaiss Memorial Park, installing way-finding signage in parks and on trails, replacing the Pat Rodio Park playground equipment, installing new school marquees, creating a *Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan*, planning to transition to electric landscaping equipment, purchasing lidded recycling carts for households, repairing the splash pad at Old Town Square, resurfacing tennis courts, and maintaining stormwater and wastewater infrastructure, streets, sidewalks, the cemetery, streetlights, HVAC systems, and much more.



To view the entire budget, visit fairfaxva.gov/budget

MAKING History

Fairfax Museum Anniversary Celebration, July 4

Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center celebrates its 32nd anniversary with birthday cupcakes, juice, and family activities from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 4. Free at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St. *Info: fairfaxva.gov/july4*

Traveling Exhibition: *Immigration: An American Story*, through Aug. 9
View documents, maps, and images that tell select stories of those who came to America — some by force and others by choice. Free at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Immigration Story")*

Old Town Fairfax Guided Walking Tours, July 27, Aug. 31
Take an hour-long tour of Old Town Fairfax with a knowledgeable guide on the last Saturday of the month. Through October, tours step off at

11 a.m. from the Fairfax Courthouse, 4000 Chain Bridge Road. The tour is free, but space is limited. *Reserve your place through Eventbrite or call 703-385-8414.*

Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House Guided Tours, Saturdays
Take a free guided tour with a knowledgeable docent through the Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House, the oldest residence in Fairfax City (10386 Main St.). The house is open from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through September. *Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Pozer")*

City Hall • 10455 Armstrong St. • Fairfax, VA 22030

Cityscene is produced by the city's Communications and Marketing Office

Matthew Kaiser, Communications & Marketing Director
 Communications & Marketing Office: 703-385-7855 (TTY: 711)
 Mayor and City Council: 703-385-7850 (TTY: 711)

Mayor Catherine S. Read (Catherine.Read@fairfaxva.gov)
 City Council (Mayor&Council@fairfaxva.gov)
 Billy M. Bates (Billy.Bates@fairfaxva.gov)
 Kate G. Doyle Feingold (Kate.DoyleFeingold@fairfaxva.gov)
 Jeffrey C. Greenfield (Jeff.Greenfield@fairfaxva.gov)
 So P. Lim (So.Lim@fairfaxva.gov)
 D. Thomas Ross (Tom.Ross@fairfaxva.gov)
 Jon R. Stehle, Jr. (Jon.Stehle@fairfaxva.gov)
 City Manager Laszlo Palko (laszlo.palko@fairfaxva.gov)

• Large Print
• Recorded
• Braille

Cityscene is mailed to city residents and businesses by the first of the month and published on the city website. It is published by the Communications and Marketing Office to inform the public of government actions and events of interest in the city. Information is subject to change after publication.

Cityscene is available in large print, Braille, and audio upon request.

Para solicitar ayuda con servicios de la ciudad o preguntas sobre esta publicación, por favor llame al 703-385-7800 (TTY: 711).

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 @CityofFairfaxVA



To report a problem or request a service, please use Fairfax City Resolve. Look for the "Report" button on fairfaxva.gov.

CAPITAL BIKESHARE HELPS YOU GO PLACES



Download the App
bit.ly/CapitalBikeshareApp

Find Your Station
bit.ly/FindYourCaBiStation

HOW IT WORKS

- Unlock It**
 Use the app, your member key, or a kiosk to check out a bike.
- Ride It**
 Ride where you like. Ride as often as you like during your day pass or membership period!
- Dock It**
 Return your bike at any of the 600 stations around the DC metro area.*

- \$1 to Unlock**
 >> \$0.05/min for a classic bike ride
 >> \$0.15/min for an ebike ride
 >> Great for quick trips from A to B!
- \$8 24-Hour Pass**
 >> Unlimited 45 min classic rides
 >> Free unlocks and discounts on ebikes
 >> Great for exploring local attractions
- \$95 Annual Membership**
 >> 365 days of bike access
 >> Unlimited 45 min classic rides
 >> Free unlocks and discounts on ebikes
- \$25 University Membership**
 >> Same benefits as Annual Membership
 >> 3 Stations on GMU-Fairfax campus
 >> Details at capitalbikeshare.com/students

NEW MEMBERS ELIGIBLE FOR A FREE HELMET!**

* E-bikes may be parked at service area bike racks for an additional \$2 docking fee. ** Helmets will only be available while supplies last. Email transportation@fairfaxva.gov to find out how to claim your helmet.

BEHIND THE BADGE



Police Officer Recruitment Open House

Are you ready to make a difference policing in a thriving community? The Fairfax City Police Department is holding a recruitment open house from 5-7 p.m. July 31 at the police station, 3730 Blenheim Blvd.

This event will provide a great opportunity for potential candidates to learn more about the police department, meet officers, and gain insight into the rewarding career of law enforcement. Full-time and temporary sworn positions are available. Info: PoliceRecruiting@fairfaxva.gov, 703-293-1655